

## ABSTRACT

The present invention provides methods of treating and preventing mortality associated with heart failure in an African American patient with hypertension and improving oxygen consumption, quality of life and exercise tolerance by administering a therapeutically effective amount of at least one hydralazine compound and at least one of isosorbide dinitrate and isosorbide mononitrate, and, optionally, one or more compounds, such as, for example, a digitalis, a diuretic compound, or a compound used to treat cardiovascular diseases. In the present invention, the hydralazine compound is preferably hydralazine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. Preferred methods of the invention comprise administering hydralazine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and isosorbide dinitrate.